(d) the steps being taken to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANANI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Observance of NHRC

1584. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission recently observed that the Prime Minister should translate its rhetoric into action as to restore the confidence of minorities in the country; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and action proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In a National Round-table on Communalism and Human Rights organized by the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore on 4-8-2002, the Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission has only referred to the anguish expressed by the Prime Minister and asked all people to translate rhetoric into action to restore the confidence of the minorities.

Killing of dalits

†1585. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published on the front page of the Rashtriya Sahara dated 19th October 2002 under the caption, "Police Ko Ghoos Na Milne Ke Karan Mare Gaye Dalit";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the action taken by Government to provide relief to the victims and to penalise the culprits; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps being taken by Government to eradicate corruption from the police at the national level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) In connection with the Dulina incident, district Jhajjar, the Government of Haryana has intimated that local officers both from civil and police administration acted with utmost care and restraint. No fault of any police or civil officer has come to notice so far. Government of Haryana has ordered an enquiry by the Divisional Commissioner, Rohtak.

(c) The Government of Haryana has announced an *ex-gratia* grant of Rs. 5 lakh to the next kin of each of the deceased and the amount has been paid. The Government of Haryana has also promised job to one of the family members of the deceased. A special investigation team under the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jhajjar is conducting investigation in the cases filed against the alleged culprits.

(d) "Police and Law and Order" are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. It is, therefore, responsibility of the State Governments to keep their forces honest and efficient. There are already various provisions in different Acts and rules to take action against the corrupt police officials.

Missing persons in the country

1586. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 15,000 persons on an average go missing every year in the four metros in the country; if so, how many of them are children and how many are girls and women;

(b) how many of them on an average are traced and return home; and

(c) what are the estimated corresponding figures of missing and found persons per year in the country indicating figures for the past three and the current so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir. As per the information received from National Crime Records Bureau, the number of persons reported missing in the four metros during the years 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 (up to